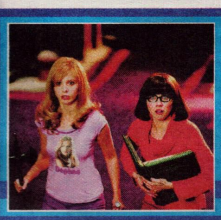
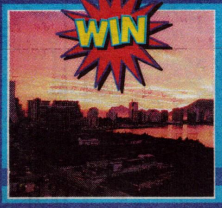
No 764 May 2, 2004

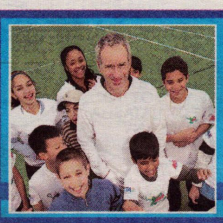
THE FUNDAY TIMES



Get quizzical
How will you do in our news, film, music, sport and who's who quiz?
Page 6



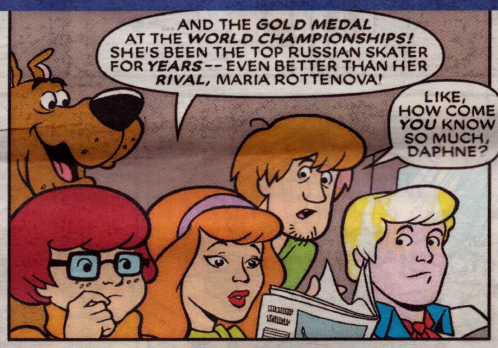
Sunny times
Funday has a hot prize to be won – a family holiday to Portugal's Algarve
Page 8

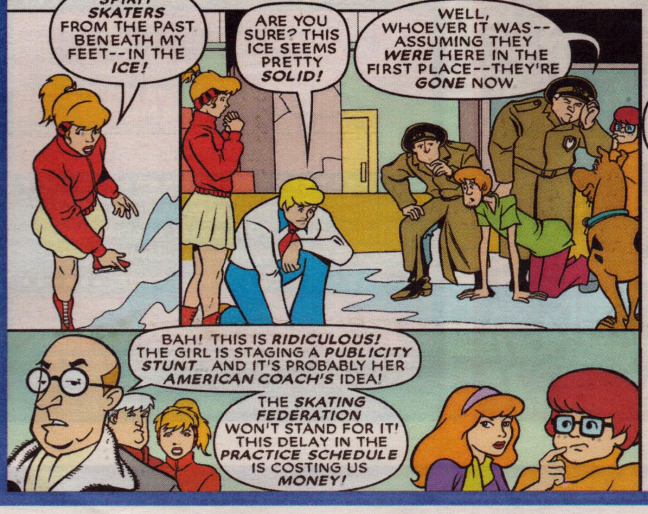


Mac's back
Find out why tennis great John McEnroe is on the lookout for new British aces
Page 9

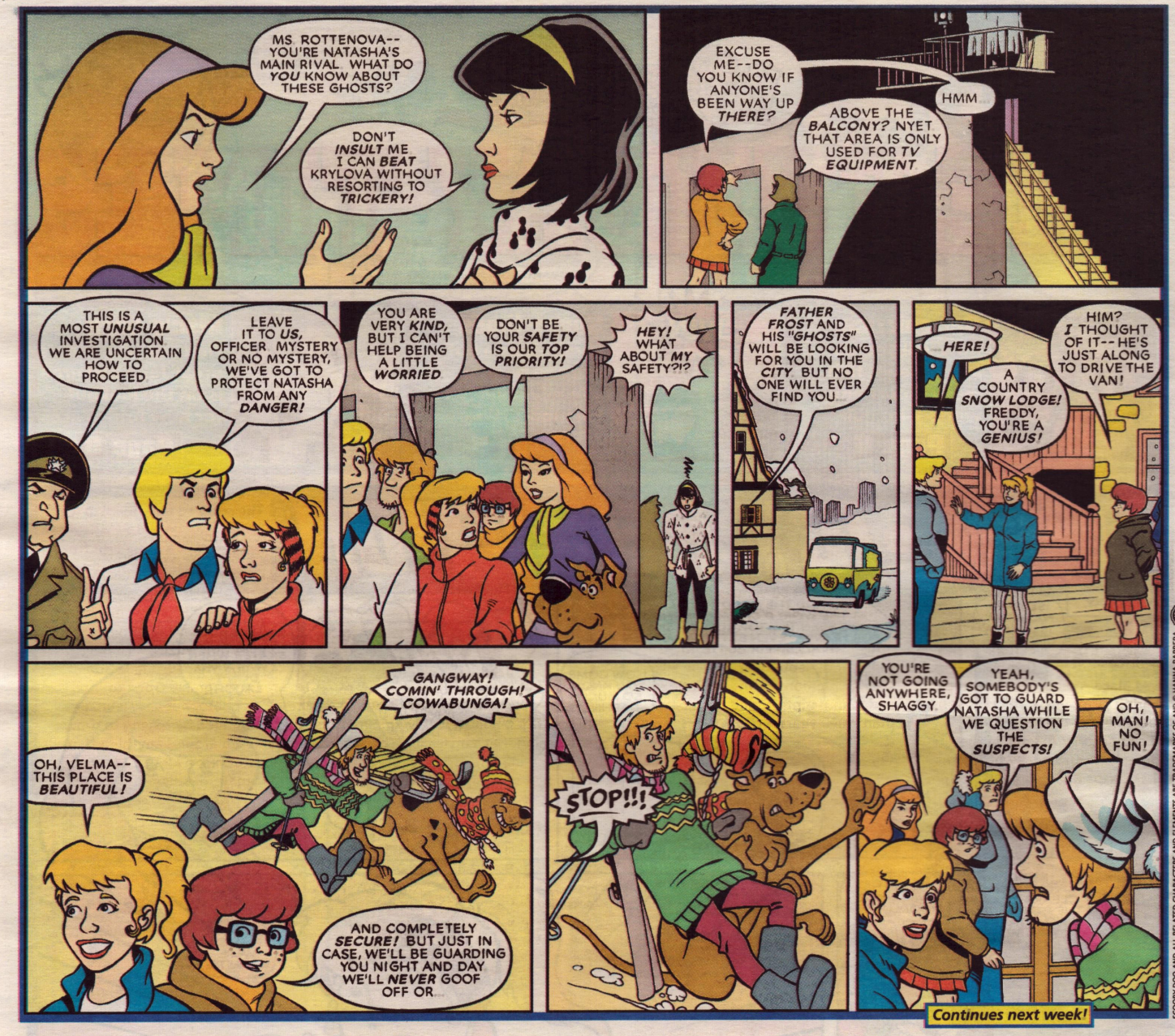
SCOOBY-DOO! in ICY RECEPTION

The story so far – Russian ice-skating queen Natasha Krylova has just had a chilly visit from the ghosts of ice-skaters past!





More inside

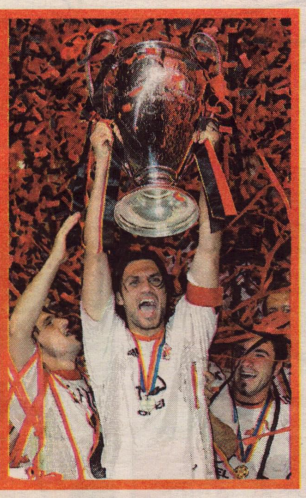


SCOOBY-DOO AND ALL RELATED CHARACTERS AND ELEMENTS ARE TRADEMARKS OF AND © HANNA-BARBERA. (S04)

CAMPIONI

This week, the Champions League semi-final, second legs, are being played with the two winners meeting in the final on May 26. Here are some quick facts about football's European Cup:

- The current European champions are Italy's AC Milan [pictured] who beat Juventus 3-2 on penalties in last year's Champions League final at Old Trafford
- The last British team to have won the European Cup is Manchester United in 1999
- The first British club to win the European Cup was Celtic in 1967, beating Inter Milan 2-1 in Lisbon
- Liverpool have been crowned European champions four times, Manchester United and Nottingham Forest, twice, and Aston Villa and Celtic, once
- Real Madrid are the real European masters – winning the final nine times in 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1966, 1998, 2000 and 2002



THE FUNDAY TIMES

COMPETITIONS

Send answers to all competitions to us at: The Funday Times, PO Box 5073, Leighton Buzzard LU95 1AY or funday.comps@sunday-times.co.uk [only one e-mail per entrant please]
Competition deadline: May 12
Entrants to Funday competitions must be 16 and under.

F-MAIL

Send your letters, cartoons, jokes and drawings to: The Funday Times, PO Box 5073, Leighton Buzzard LU7 7GX or funday.times@sunday-times.co.uk

NOT RECEIVED YOUR PRIZE?

Please telephone 020 7711 1521 or e-mail custserv@fundaytimes.co.uk

GOT A NEWS STORY?

Please telephone 020 7782 7415 or e-mail funday.news@sunday-times.co.uk

PICTURE AP/MICHAEL SOHN. COVER PICTURE ©WARNER BROS. PICTURES 2003

7 DAYS

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE WORLD THIS WEEK

TODAY

Five finalists compete for the title of BBC Young Musician of the Year at the Usher Hall in Edinburgh. Tune in to the final, on BBC2, at 5.15pm • Red Cross Week starts. This year's fundraising will focus on the charity's role during and since the second world war • Petrol-heads will be heading to Rockingham Motor Speedway, in Corby, for its Days of Thunder event. Alongside the high-octane excitement, including pick-up truck racing and 275kph V8 cars, popsters Blue and D-Side will perform live

MONDAY

The traditional May Day cheese rolling festival in Stilton, Cambridgeshire, takes place. Teams of four, often wearing fancy dress, roll wooden cheeses down the high street • It's Charlton v Arsenal in the women's FA Cup final which kicks off at Loftus Road, London, at 1pm

TUESDAY

World Asthma Day will raise awareness of the condition that affects more than 1.4m children in the UK • Gumball 3000 is under starter's orders. This wacky car race begins and ends in France with the route passing through Spain and Morocco. Chris Eubank and movie star Paul Walker are competing • Margaret Thatcher became the first woman to be elected prime minister in the UK, 25 years ago, when the Conservative Party won the 1979 general election

WEDNESDAY

The winner of the European Museum of the Year Award 2004 is announced in Athens, Greece. Last year, London's Victoria and Albert Museum took top honours • Top pop souvenirs go under the hammer at Christie's auction house in London. Lots include a 1955 Elvis Presley concert poster and a copy of The Beatles' first contract

THURSDAY

Sir Roger Bannister [right] became the first person in the world to run a mile in under four minutes, 50 years ago. Today, the great man himself will return to Oxford University where the historic run took place • Time to get starry-eyed – Space Day involves schoolchildren around the world in a variety of out-of-this-world projects

FRIDAY

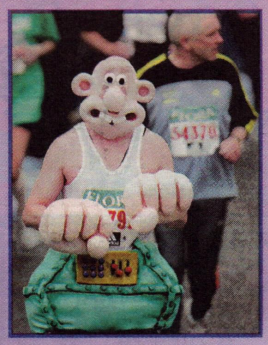
Prize-winning pictures [see below] from the 2004 World Press Photo competition go on view at London's Royal Festival Hall. The same photos will be seen at 80 venues around the world • Priceless artefacts excavated in central Asia can be seen at the British Library, in London, from today until September 12. The Silk Road exhibition features paintings and manuscripts buried for more than 2,000 years

SATURDAY

VE Day marks the anniversary of the Allies' victory in Europe. On this day in 1945, more than a million people partied on the streets of London to celebrate the defeat of Nazi Germany • Helston, in Cornwall, celebrates Flora Day – to mark the coming of spring. As well as a fair, a traditional mummers' play [Hal-an-Tow] takes place • London's Earls Court is the venue for the Prince's Trust Urban Music Festival. Jay-Z, Alicia Keys and Amy Winehouse [above] are among the performers

NEWS

ON THE RUN



To be a successful runner you need a lot of stamina and willpower ... or a pair of techno trousers! Spectators at this year's London Marathon were surprised to see Gromit's best friend, Wallace, legging it around the 26.2-mile course. Inside the costume was Bernie Hollywood, who finished in 5 hours and 22 minutes. He was running to raise cash for Wallace and Gromit's Children's Foundation, which improves the quality of life for children in hospital and hospices. You can help the charity too, but you don't need to feel exhausted doing it. Just take part in Wrong Trousers Day on July 2 by looking weird or wacky from the waist down. Log on to www.wrongtrousersday.org to find out more.

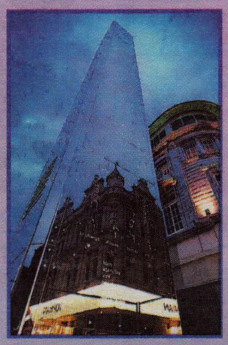
BLOWN AWAY

Wind is a force to be reckoned with and it's been harnessed for centuries to pump water and, more recently, to generate electricity. Now the British Wind Energy Association wants you to show what this power means to you in its Catch the Wind competition. Prizes, including kites and windsurfing lessons, are up for grabs. Open to 7- to 14-year-olds, your entry can be a painting or photo, but as celebrity judge Nick Baker [above] explains, don't be discouraged by having to draw something that's invisible. "The project can be based around anything that the wind influences," he explains. "It could be a turbine, a kite or a kestrel hanging in the air." Visit www.catch-the-wind.com for details

JUNIOR JAMES

Bond is back – but he's swapped his naval uniform for a school one! Writer and comedian Charlie Higson has penned a 007 novel, planned as the first in a new series. But don't expect the gadget-packed MI6 spy from the movies – this book is about Bond when he was 13. Due to be published by Puffin in March 2005, the story is set in the 1930s and sees young James travelling to a Scottish castle where a rich American is conducting some bizarre experiments. "I've grown up with Bond, and while I've had to finally accept that I'll never play him in the films, writing about him is even more exciting!" says Charlie

GR8 LITE

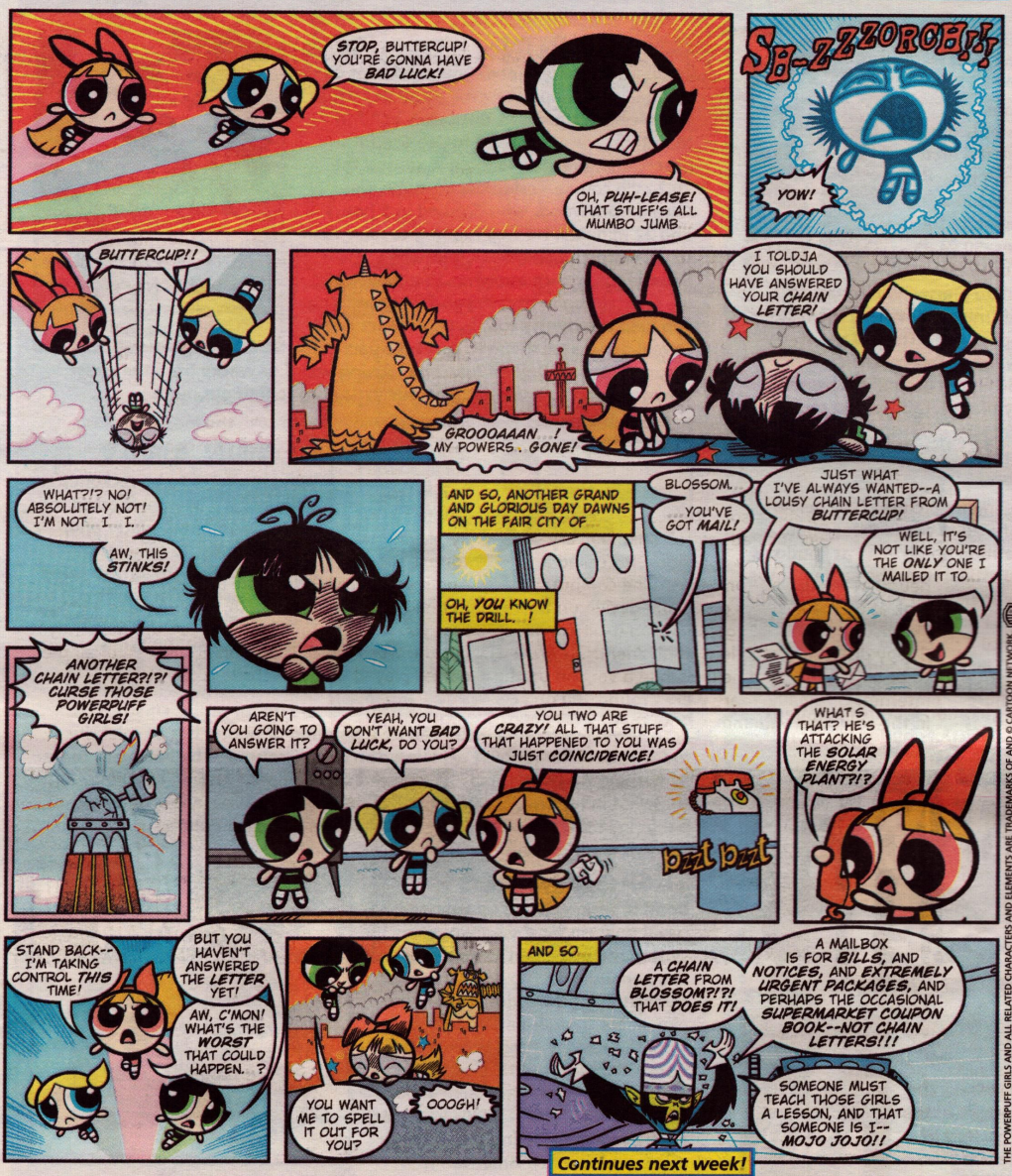


Streetlights in Middlesbrough are being put in the shade by a 10m-tall beacon built in the town's centre. Creator Peter Freeman [right] says he was inspired by a 1980s sci-fi film and by Captain James Cook, who was born nearby. Called Spectra-txt, the stainless steel column uses fibre optic technology for its eye-catching display. Best of all, it's interactive. Passers-by can change the colour of the lights by texting messages, such as "starvibe" or "chromapop"

PICTURES: REUTERS/PAUL HACKETT, ADAM LAWRENSON PHOTOGRAPHY ©CHRISTIE'S IMAGES LTD 2004, PA/PHIL NOBLE/MYUNG JUNG KIM, ERIK REPNER/ DENMARK/ BERLINGSKE TIDENDE/RAPHO, HEMSBY ROCK 'N' ROLL WEEKENDER

THE POWERPUFF GIRLS — CHAIN OF FOOLS

The story so far – The curse of the chain letter has already struck Bubbles – and it looks as though Buttercup is next!



Continues next week!

THE POWERPUFF GIRLS AND ALL RELATED CHARACTERS AND ELEMENTS ARE TRADEMARKS OF AND © CARTOON NETWORK. (S04)

WORDWISE

PLACES

Sometimes an object or idea gets its name from the place it originated. In time, it becomes so popular that people forget it was ever associated with a particular place. Here are some examples. Can you think of any others?

bayonet bayonets
NOUN a sharp blade that can be fixed to the end of a rifle and used for stabbing.
HISTORY: named after *Bayonne*, in France, where it comes from

hamburger hamburgers
NOUN a flat disc of minced meat, seasoned and fried; often eaten in a bread roll.
HISTORY: named after its city of origin, *Hamburg*, in Germany

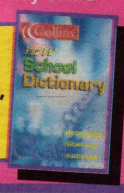
jodhpurs
Said "**jod**-purz" PLURAL NOUN jodhpurs are close-fitting trousers worn when riding a horse.
HISTORY: from *Jodhpur*, a city in northern India

sherry sherries
NOUN sherry is a kind of strong wine.
HISTORY: from the Spanish region of *Jerez* where it was first made

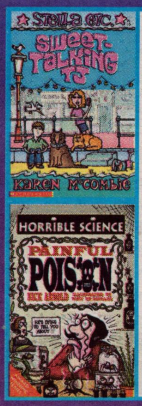
spa spas
NOUN a place where water containing minerals bubbles out of the ground, at which people drink or bathe in the water to improve their health.
HISTORY: from the Belgian town *Spa* where there are mineral springs

spartan
ADJECTIVE a spartan way of life is very simple with no luxuries EG *spartan accommodation.*
HISTORY: from *Sparta*, a city in Ancient Greece, whose inhabitants were famous for their discipline, military skill, and stern and plain way of life

Taken from Collins New School English Dictionary [2nd Edition, ISBN: 0-00-712636-0, paperback £5.99]



f-mail



NOVEL IDEAS

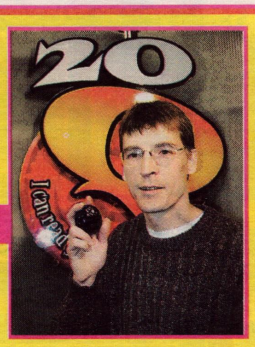
There are some terrific titles out from Scholastic Books in May. Stella Etc by Karen McCombie follows the adventures of a shy girl moving from bustling London to a sleepy seaside town. And fans of Nick Arnold's Horrible Science series will be queuing up for his latest – Painful Poison – all about killer chemicals and deadly venom. The star f-mailer will receive a copy of Stella Etc and Painful Poison – and a £100 worth of other great Scholastic titles. The other f-mailers will receive Stella Etc and Painful Poison plus £30 worth of other titles.

Mark Queen, 12, Ramsgate

Dear f-mail,
I recently saw the Philip Guston exhibition at the Royal Academy. It was amazing. Guston had a huge interest in the way society was run. One painting, The Street, shows an army of legs and arms battling against each other using rubbish, with two spiders crawling on the floor. He was showing that if we continue to live like we are, spiders will outlive us all. Maybe Guston is right, seeing the current situation the world is in. I recommend other readers to visit it.
Fiona Mayer, 14, via e-mail

Dear f-mail,
After seeing a piece on a TV show about Warner Bros looking for extras for Harry Potter, I decided to apply. I didn't expect to hear back from the casting office but I got a letter saying I had a part. It's not a big part but it's great to be on a film set. If other readers are thinking about applying – do it! It's so much fun and gives you great experience of what goes on during filming.
Victoria Straftsbury, St Albans

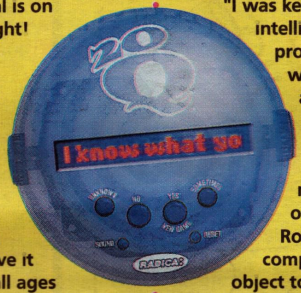
MIND GAMES



Funday meets Robin Burgener – the inventor of a new mini mind-reader

Imagine a machine that can guess your thoughts. No, it's not science fiction – it's already here. The 20Q electronic game asks you to think of an everyday object. By asking 20 questions such as "can it fit in an envelope?" or "is it multi-coloured?" – the satsuma-sized marvel works out which animal, vegetable or mineral is on your mind. Spookily, it's usually right!

The 20Q toy is the brainchild of Canadian software developer, Robin Burgener. He reveals that there are more than 2,000 objects stored in its memory, plus 160 questions it selects from to read your mind. "It's very addictive as people are always trying to beat the game," adds Robin. "But often they want the game to win to prove it can guess correctly! It appeals to all ages – as long as you can read, you can play the game. My five-year-old daughter loves it and so does my wife's mother, who is in her 60s. She plays it for hours!"



Computer programming and word games might not be an obvious combination but Robin admits to having lots of different interests. "Word games were popular with my family when I was growing up," he recalls. "But I was also into computers from an early age. I had contracts for programming jobs when I was 12!"

20Q has its origins back in 1988, when Robin developed the original software for the game. "I was keen to experiment with artificial intelligence," he recalls. "I had seen a program used to identify animals. It was a binary tree, which meant it asked 'yes' or 'no' questions that spread out like tree branches, until you reached the correct animal. The problem was if the player misunderstood one single question or answered it incorrectly, it failed."

Robin's solution was to create a complicated matrix, linking every object to every question. "It's called a neural-network," he continues. "The computer can look at all the answers given and decide on the likeliest solution." The game began its life on a floppy disk that Robin lent to his friends. It proved to be so popular that he launched a version on the internet. Originally, there were around 100 objects in the computer's memory. Now there are 13,000 objects it can suggest! Interest in the game is worldwide – it's sometimes hard to get onto the website because so many people are on-line. "I've got 20 computers in my basement to run the game," says Robin.

One of the cleverest elements of the online game is that it learns as people play against it. If a player answers a question incorrectly, the computer won't know it's wrong. But as more people play and give the correct answer, the computer will learn to take the most popular response. "We occasionally get feedback from players who think an answer is wrong," explains Robin. "What they don't realise is they have the power to correct any problems themselves, simply by playing the game several times and giving the correct answer."

And if you're trying to come up with a good object to test 20Q's electronic brain, Robin knows a few that you should avoid. "Horse crops up frequently but the word which is used in around 1% of all the games played on the website is carrot!"

20Q is available at toy shops now. Play the online game at www.20Q.net

THE SUNDAY TIMES
THE MONTH

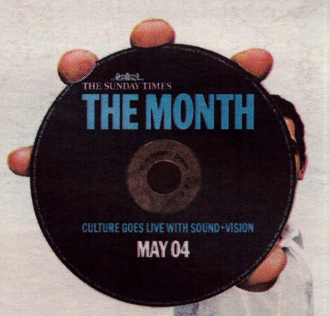
EXPLORE THE MONTH MAY 04

XPOSING THE TRUTH
Get the lowdown on the latest X-Men DVD

GAME CRAZY
Check out Uefa Euro 2004 plus Sonic Heroes cheats and hints

TV FAVOURITES
Watch action-packed clips from Duel Masters and Dragonball

UNDERWATER WORLD
Find out what lives at the edge of the sea in our virtual rockpool



PLUS
ARE YOU A YOUNG EINSTEIN?
Have a go at our interactive science quiz & discover how much you really know

Don't worry if you missed your copy of THE MONTH last Sunday. To order one e-mail: tmcustserv@sunday-times.co.uk
Write 'The Month May' in the subject field and don't forget to include your full name and address.
The next issue of THE MONTH will appear on May 30.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
LIVINGtv

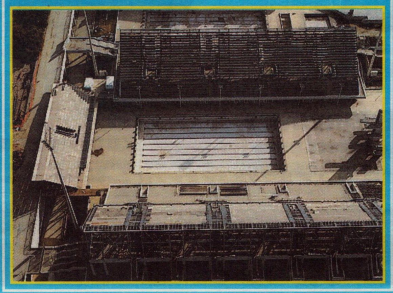
IN THE KNOW

So you think you've got your finger on the pulse of what's hip and happening in the world today? Put your knowledge to the test with Funday's topical quiz. It's one point for each correct answer

TOP HEADLINES

1 In which city did March's horrific terrorist train bombings take place?
2 Who was recently named as Britain's wealthiest man in The Sunday Times Rich List 2004?
3 John Kerry [pictured] is to challenge George W Bush for the US presidency this year, but which political party does he represent?

4 Which former Blue Peter presenter died of cancer in April, aged 41?
5 Prince William represented Scottish universities in which sport recently?
6 In March, which boyband member announced he was to leave the group to spend more time with his family?
7 In Ireland, what were people banned from doing in workplaces – including pubs and restaurants – from March 28?
8 In June, the 60th anniversary of which historical wartime event will be commemorated?
9 The Cassini-Huygens spacecraft is expected to reach which planet in the solar system this July?
10 What will the swimming pool at this summer's Athens Olympics [pictured] be missing after organisers said it would be impossible to finish it in time?

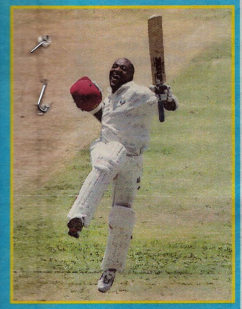


SOUNDS GOOD

1 Name the leader singer of The Darkness [pictured].
2 Who recently topped the charts with Yeah?
3 Which European country are The Rasmus from?
4 Which pop idol will be playing six sell-out gigs in London during her re-Invention World Tour this August?
5 Who is to represent the United Kingdom at this month's Eurovision Song Contest?
6 Recent chart star Agnetha Faltskog used to be a member of which popular 1970s Swedish band?
7 McFly hit the top spot with which song recently?

8 Sir Paul McCartney, Oasis [pictured] and Muse are all rumoured to be appearing at which summer music festival?
9 Under My Skin is the name of which rock chick's soon-to-be-released album?
10 Pharrell Williams is one third of which ultracool hip-hop group?

BE A SPORT



1 At which ground did West Indian batsman Brian Lara [pictured] set a new world record Test score of 400 not out?
2 Which British football club does Martin O'Neill manage?
3 Name the British female marathon runner who claimed a surprise place in the British Olympic team after her 10th place in the London Marathon.
4 Which stadium hosts the Heineken Cup final on May 23?
5 In the Champions League, who scored Chelsea's only goal in their 3-1 semi-final, first-leg defeat to Monaco?
6 Name the golfer who won the US Masters last month to claim his first Major title.
7 Where is next weekend's Formula One Grand Prix being held?

8 Name the horse [pictured] that won the 2004 Grand National.
9 Freddy Adu is making waves in America after his first-team debut for DC United aged just 14, but in which sport?
10 The world snooker championships are being played in which city?

AT THE FLICKS

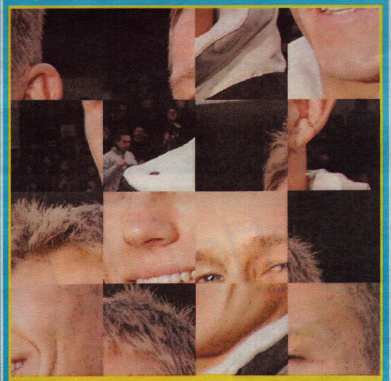
1 Brad Pitt [pictured], Eric Bana and Orlando Bloom star in which historical epic set for release on May 21?
2 Who plays Daphne in Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed?
3 British actor Christian Bale is to play which DC Comics superhero in 2005?
4 Oscar-winning Lord of the Rings director Peter Jackson is from which country?
5 What do the films The Haunted Mansion and Pirates of the Caribbean have in common?

6 How many awards did The Return of the King [pictured] win at this year's Oscars?
7 The Tracy brothers make their live-action debut in which movie this July?
8 Actor Gary Oldman plays which character in Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban?
9 Name the director of the forthcoming The Day After Tomorrow and Independence Day.
10 What is the name of Nemo's dad in Finding Nemo?

MIXED UP

Can you name these two headline makers?
We've messed up their photographs but to give you a helping hand, here's an extra clue: one is from the pop world and the other is a big sports star!

1



2

How do you think you have done? Remember, it's one point for each correct answer, so total marks will be out of 42. The answers are printed upside down below. Good luck!

ANSWERS

TOP HEADLINES – 1 Madrid. 2 Roman Abramovich. 3 The Democrats. 4 Caron Keating. 5 Water polo. 6 Bryan McFadden. 7 Smoking. 8 The Normandy D-Day landings. 9 Saturn. 10 A roof. SOUNDS GOOD – 1 Justin Hawkins. 2 Usher. 3 Finland. 4 Madonna. 5 James Fox. 6 ABBA. 7 Five Colours in Her Hair. 8 Glastonbury. 9 Avril Lavigne. 10 N'E'R'D. BE A SPORT – 1 Antigua Recreation Ground. 2 Celtic. 3 Tracey Morris. 4 Twickenham. 5 Hernan Crespo. 6 Phil Mickelson. 7 Barcelona, Spain. 8 Aintree. 9 Football. 10 Sheffield. AT THE FLICKS – 1 Troy. 2 Sarah Michelle Gellar. 3 Batman. 4 New Zealand. 5 Both movies are based on Disney theme-park rides. 6 Eleven. 7 Thunderbirds. 8 Sirius Black. 9 Roland Emmerich. 10 Marlin. MIXED UP – 1 Christina Aguilera. 2 Johnny Wilkinson.

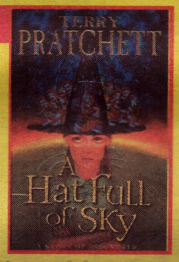
FRESH! THIS WEEK

SINGLE

EVERYBODY'S CHANGING
Keane

It's no wonder Keane are touring with Travis as the Sussex three-piece share their gift for harmonious, guitar-driven tunes that get better with each listen. Everybody's Changing is a soaring song that more than deserves to match the success of Keane's previous single, Somewhere Only We Know.

BOOK



A HAT FULL OF SKY
Terry Pratchett

Nac Mac Feegle – or the Wee Free Men – return in this Discworld novel from the pen of Terry Pratchett. The tiny terrors join Tiffany Aching as she tries to learn the ways of witching in a fantastically inventive and humourous fantasy adventure. Fans will be sky high.

WEBSITE

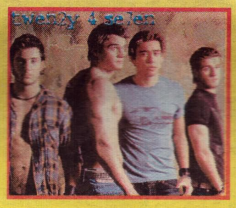
VOFFICIAL.COM

Funky popsters V have recently been touring with label mates Busted and McFly while also getting ready to release their debut single – Blood Sweat & Tears – on May 24. V's official site is a slick but standard introduction to Kevin, Mark, Leon, Antony and Aaron.

SINGLE

HIDE Twen2y 4 Se7en

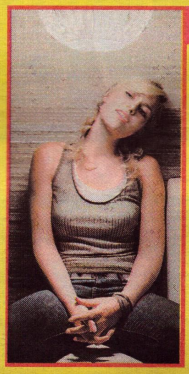
Four lads who bare their chests in a "cleverly" named band – it's a play-it-by-numbers entry into boyband territory judging by the cover but Hide is a surprisingly tuneful ballad. The song doesn't quite hit the high spots but it's not a stinker. Hide? Maybe not, it isn't that bad.



FASHION

FOOTIE GIRL

It's football v fashion with the new Footie Girl collection of baby blue and fuchsia pink t-shirts, hoodies, skirts and tops [available at Tammy]. Funky and affordable, we predict this is perfect wear for Euro 2004 when it kicks off next month. Call 0161 926 8312 for stockists.



SINGLE

SINGLE
Natasha Bedingfield

Yes, she's Daniel's sister but, no, she sounds nothing like him. Single has a real club vibe to it and its independent woman message sees Natasha firmly treading her own path. A strong first single that certainly suggests this 22-year-old could surpass the success of her sibling.

TELEVISION

MAKE IT BIG Five

Could you make a successful stab at working a 9-to-5 job? New series Make It Big [today, on Five, at 10.30am] follows twelve 11- to 14-year-olds as they spend their holidays seeing what it's like to work for a living. Cue tears, tantrums, laughs and some serious slacking – just like the grown-ups, then!

TOY

PHLAT BALL

A cross between a sponge ball and a frisbee, Phlat Ball [£9.99] is set to be a must-have this summer. It transforms from a flat disc to a ball when thrown, providing some cool catching fun. Plus, the variable time delay makes for extra spice when playing hot potato. Prepare to have a ball!

SINGLE

LAST THING ON MY MIND
Ronan Keating & LeAnn Rimes

Clenched fists, pained expressions – it's not hard to image Ronan and LeAnn crooning this heartwrenching ballad together. There's nothing wrong or right with Last Thing On My Mind, it's just how you imagine it to sound. In fact, it's just so predictable.

GOOD OK BAD

PICTURE: ©IVE

WIN IT!

FUN IN THE SUN

Portugal will be full of footie fans for Euro 2004, but this beautiful country has something for everyone. That's why Explore Algarve has created family activity holidays in the sunny south. Sharing a stylish villa, you can try your hand at horse riding, bird-watching, climbing or golf. For food fans, the villa's chef can host kids' cookery classes or you can take a trip to the Splash and Slide water park to shoot down the chutes. Click on www.explorealgarve.com for more details.

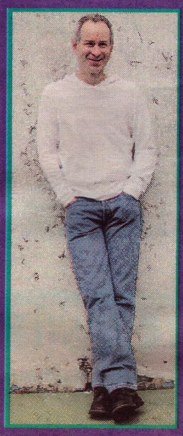
Thanks to Explore Algarve, one Funday reader will be whisked off for a seven-night family holiday [two adults, two children] in Sao Bras de Alportel, Portugal, this summer. This fantastic holiday includes shared villa accommodation, return flights, meals and two of the activities.

To enter, tell us which ocean borders Portugal's Algarve region.

Mark your entry ALGARVE and send it, with your name, age, address and home telephone number, to the competition address on page 2.

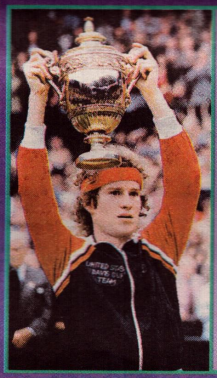
WANTED

... the next Tim Henman! Could you be Britain's first Ariel Tennis Ace? Funday meets tennis great John McEnroe to find out more



Hi John, what can you tell us about the Ariel Tennis Ace search?
In a nutshell, we're trying to bring tennis to loads more kids who may never have thought of playing. Many people think tennis is an elite sport – expensive and posh – but we want to attract kids from all backgrounds.
Venus and Serena Williams didn't come from typical tennis backgrounds, did they?
No, and they're the most incredible sports story in probably the last 100 years: two black sisters who grew up in one of the poorest, roughest part of Los Angeles and both got to the top of tennis. That's an exception – like winning the lottery!
How are you going to find a British tennis ace?
We're holding talent search days around the UK where kids can enter tennis challenges. The winners will come to a training camp in June and be coached by me before they play a final at Wimbledon with Tim Henman. The top prize, for one girl and one boy, is a year's free tennis coaching, equipment and the chance of a tennis scholarship. If kids can't get along to a talent day, we're holding 3.8 million free tennis lessons all over the UK this summer, so everyone can get involved.
So what are you and Tim looking for?
Good athletes. You don't have to have played tennis before. Playing any sports helps. Football improves running, basketball teaches co-ordination, skipping is a great activity and skateboarding is excellent for balance.
Skateboarding!
Yeah, I was a pretty good skateboarder ... until one day I was headed down a hill way too fast, wondering which bush I was gonna crash in. Tennis is much safer!
Why are you helping British tennis?
Britain is where I first broke out – at Wimbledon in 1977, when I was 18. The Lawn Tennis Association [LTA] asked me if I'd help because it wants a Wimbledon winner. The last British guy to win was Fred Perry in 1936. I remember being inspired by playing with my tennis idol, the Australian champ, Rod Laver. Hopefully some kids will remember me and that'll get them pumped up.
Who's pumping up tennis right now?
I'd have to say the men: Roger Federer, Andy Roddick, and American James Blake looks pretty cool in his sleeveless shirt. For the most part, the tradition of Wimbledon is a good thing. But people look up to all sorts of entertainers and if kids like a player's look – their hair, their headbands – that's good.

You still play tennis, but how did you first get into the game?
When I was eight or nine, my parents joined a country club. There was only tennis or swimming and I didn't like swimming ... I thought tennis was a better sport. It turned out I was pretty good and a professional tennis coach spotted me.
Did you have to give up other sports to make it in tennis?
No. I played loads of basketball, baseball and football, so I didn't burn out on one particular sport. Some players love tennis so much they can play it all the time. Andre Agassi started playing when he was only three years old. But you don't have to drop everything for tennis.
What's your advice for budding Ariel Tennis Aces?
Don't be put off, if you can't play straight away, persevere. Tennis is a tough game when you're losing – you've got no team mates to cry with. But when you're winning, tennis is the best. You get to strut around! You've done it all on your own!



Mac facts

Name: John Patrick McEnroe Jr
Born: February 16, 1959
Nationality: American
Titles: Seven Grand Slam singles titles including Wimbledon in 1981, 1983 and 1984
Biggest rival: Ice-cool Swede Bjorn Borg. In 1980 Mac lost to Borg – just – in a thrilling Wimbledon final, 8-6, in the fifth set!
Nicknames: Supermac, Superbrat, Mac the Mouth
Famous for: Big hair and an even bigger temper on court [besides lightning-quick volleys, awesome groundstrokes and swerving serve]
Catchphrase: "You cannot be serious!" shouted at umpires who called his shots out

If you want to be an Ariel Tennis Ace, click on www.ariel.co.uk

PICTURES: PA

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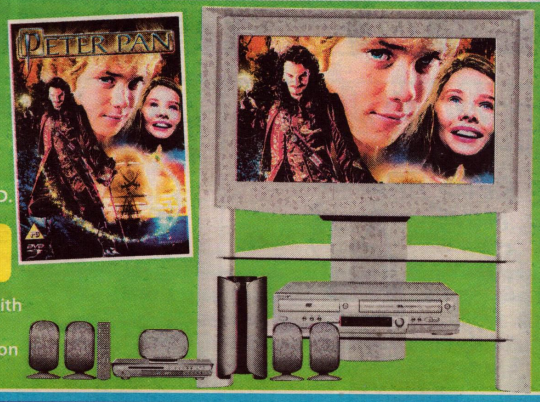
PAN-TASTIC!

The story may be 100 years old but Peter Pan is still the boy who refuses to grow up. Now the latest version of this magical tale is out now to own or rent on DVD [cert PG, £19.99] and video [£14.99]. Travel with Peter and Wendy to Neverland and meet Tinkerbell and the dastardly Captain Hook. The DVD also has a treasure trove of extras including deleted scenes, alternate ending and games and songs.
Thanks to Universal Pictures Video, one reader will win Peter Pan on DVD – and a 32" Sony Silver Wega TV with Freeview built-in [and a Sony home cinema system] to watch it on!

A second prize-winner receives a Sony DVD/VCR combi and the Peter Pan DVD.
Plus, two runners-up will win the DVD.

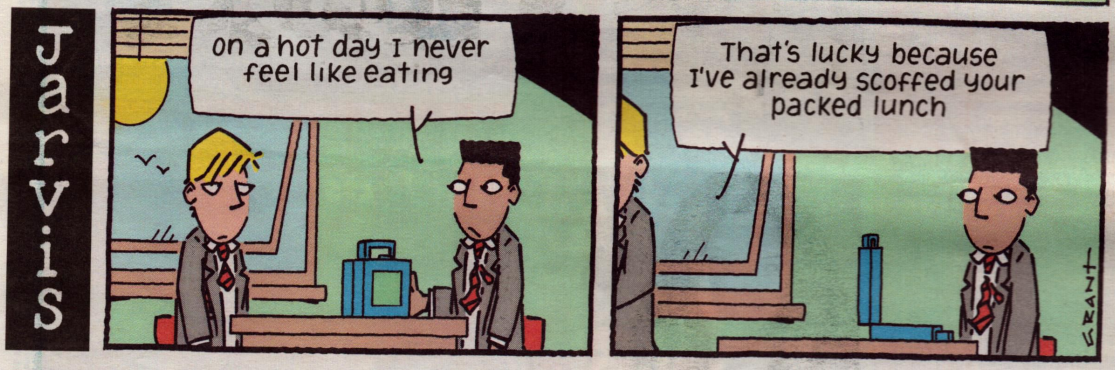
To enter, tell us who wrote the original story of Peter Pan.

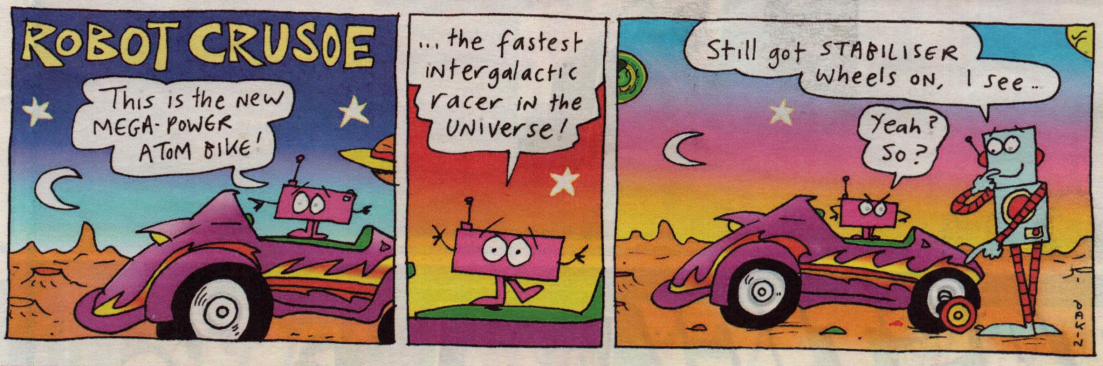
Mark your entry PAN and send it, with your name, age, address and home telephone number, to the competition address on page 2.



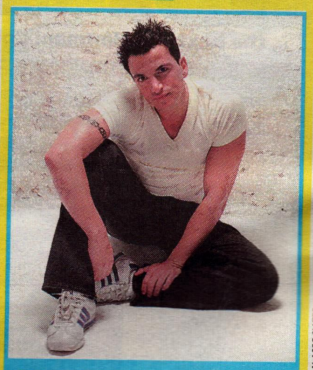
Normal TNL competition rules apply to all Funday Times competitions

ADVANCE FEATURES





QF QUICKFIRE



PICTURE: CAN ASSOCIATES

PETER ANDRE

How tidy was your room when you left this morning?
Oh mate, it was shocking. I'm staying in a hotel at the moment and I feel sorry for the cleaning lady. My clothes are all over the place. She's gonna walk in and think it's world war three.

What CD are you listening to right now?
The Best of George Benson. He's a great jazz performer. I'd love to duet with him one day.

Which TV programmes do you catch if you can?
I haven't had time to sit down and watch much TV lately, but I've been watching The Office when it's repeated. I haven't seen it before, but it's hilarious.

Who's the most intriguing celebrity you have ever met?
George Michael. He's very polite and very nice, but he doesn't give too much away, which makes him mysterious.

What's your secret geeky thing? We've all got one!
I'm obsessed with DVDs. I've got a collection of 500 and I take about 50 of them with me wherever I go so I can watch them on my portable player.

What have you been putting off doing recently that you really ought to get on with?
Going to the gym. I haven't been for three months and I can't stop eating, so it's pretty dangerous.

When are you happiest?
When I'm chilling, watching a DVD. Get me a movie and a pizza and I'm truly content.

What's your motto for life?
If there's 98% of something you don't like, try and concentrate on the 2% you do like.

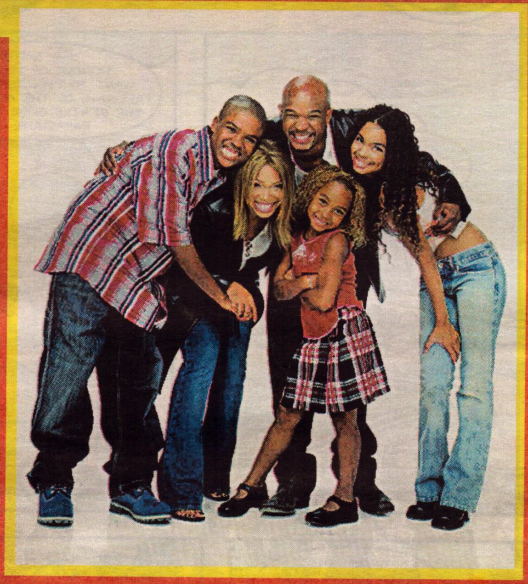
Jarvis is such a pig!

KEEP IT REAL

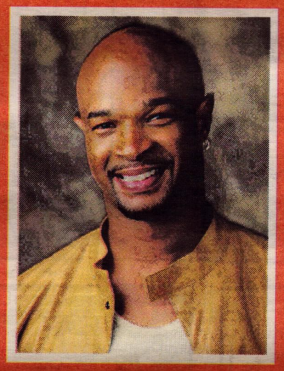
Jenny Eden visits the set of Trouble's My Wife and Kids

It's the hit US sitcom that prides itself on tackling the issues affecting young people today, and while My Wife and Kids might not have all the answers, it's not afraid to deal with the tricky questions.

The show follows the Kyles as they struggle with the dilemmas of family life. Sixteen-year-old Junior has just discovered his girlfriend is pregnant while his sister Claire has got an ultra-religious boyfriend who is trying to put the brakes on romance. And their little sister Kady is dating a boy genius. Michael, the father, is worried about his lack of hair and lack of cool, while mother Jay is taking college courses to help her get used to life away from the office.



Damon Wayans stars as Michael Kyle. He is also the co-creator and executive producer of My Wife and Kids



Where do you get the ideas for the stories?

A lot of them are real-life situations I've dealt with as a parent. I've just become a grandad because my teenage son has had a baby and it wasn't planned. It's something I wanted to share with the world because I think a lot of people hide the fact that there are kids having kids right now. It's not how I wanted it to be, but my grandchild is the most beautiful thing I've ever seen.

Don't your kids mind their stories from their lives appearing on TV?

I pride myself on my relationship with my kids. But if they mess up, I put it on camera. I fired my son and then wrote an episode about it. He was a writer on the show and he wasn't working.

What kind of dad are you?

I'm old school. My daughter is 16 now and I've told her the money bag is closed. If you want money, she can come here and pitch stories or work in wardrobe.

What was your family like when you were a kid?

When you're growing up in a three-bedroom apartment in New York with 12 people, every day's a party. Growing up, it was always competition for the joke and it still is. We'll sit there and be talking and someone will always top it. It's great conversation.

How would you sum up the Kyle family?

We're not perfect, we're a family with flaws. Our children aren't the greatest kids in the world, they have problems but as parents we try to solve them.

Jennifer Freeman plays Claire Kyle

What's it like working with Damon?

He treats me like his daughter, he's very protective of me. Damon's not really like a boss on set, he's more like an uncle.

Does he give you advice?

The advice the guys on set all give me is to stay away from boys – but I don't take it. They always make fun of the guys I like, they always watch who I date. They're very protective – they don't really allow any guys on set. But I don't think being on TV helps me meet guys, I think it scares them.

You've been voted one of the hottest teenage stars in America. How does that feel?

I think that's really funny. I consider myself the dorkiest person in the world. Anybody who knows me knows how much of a dork I am and how goofy I can be.

Is the Kyle family anything like yours?

My mum is a single mum and I've got eight-year-old twin sisters. I was like an only child for 10 years. So not at all.

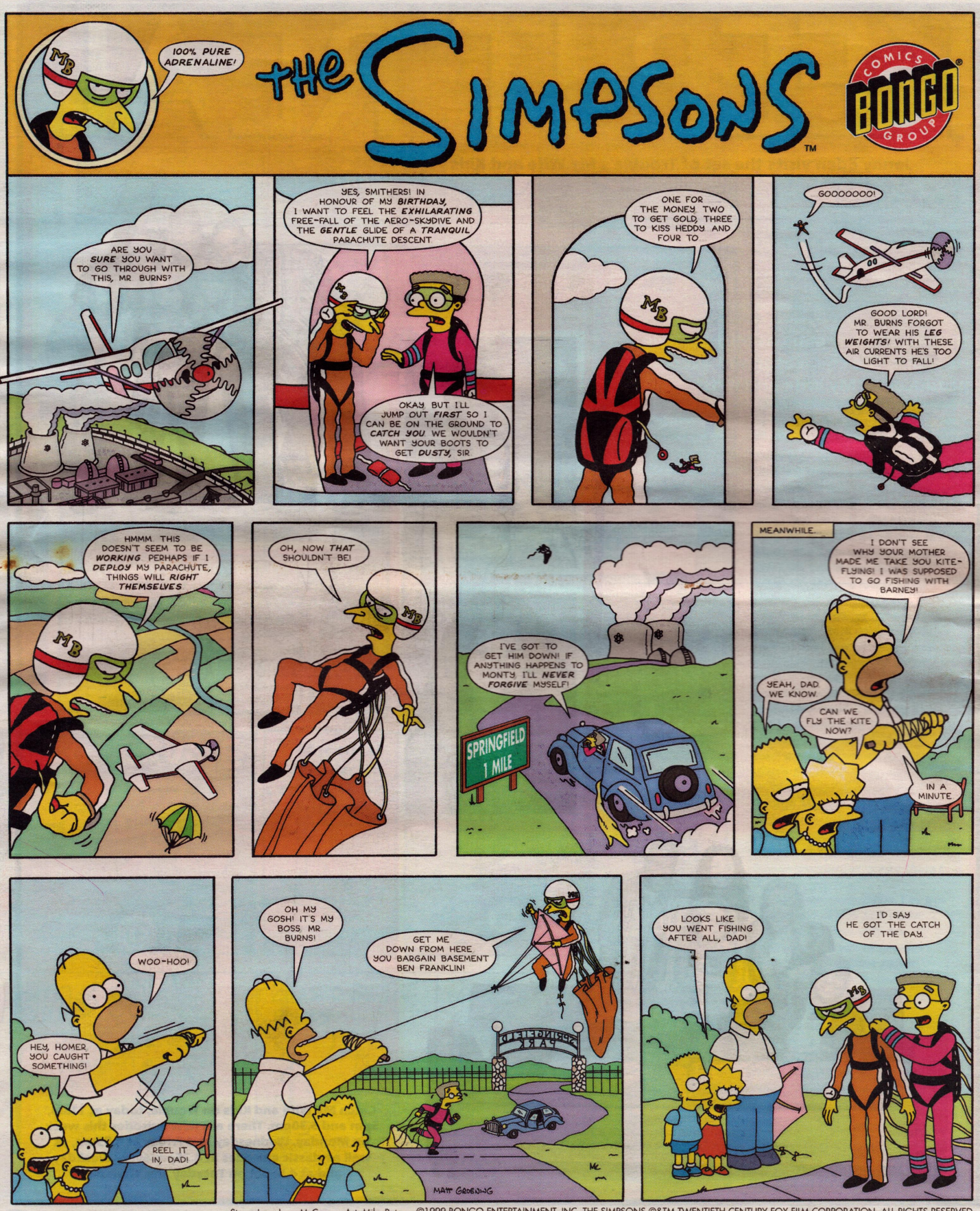
Do you enjoy being an actress?

If I could be an actress for the rest of my life, I would be. But I'm still going to school and trying to do that while the show is on. I graduated in June from high school and now I've got into university to study forensic psychology. I go to school, see my friends, I think I've got a pretty normal life.

What's the funniest thing that's happened on set?

We had a pie fight in one episode. After it, there were all these cream pies left so we started throwing them and they went everywhere. We were all covered and had to go upstairs for showers afterwards.

Catch My Wife and Kids on Trouble, today at 11am, 5pm and 5.30pm. There are new episodes this week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 4.55pm, as well as classic episodes at 4.25pm every weekday and at 4.55pm on Tuesday and Thursday



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